

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 00073 071753Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15
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CINCUSAFE
USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0073

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DA
SUBJECT: NEW DANISH DEFENSE AGREEMENT

REF: A. 76 USNATO 7011 DTG 231712Z DEC 76 NOTAL
B. 76 COPENHAGEN 4754 DTG 201700Z DEC 76 NOTAL
C. 76 COPENHAGEN 3319 DTG 041525Z OCT 76 NOTAL
D. 76 COPENHAGEN 3192 DTG 231610Z SEP 76 NOTAL
E. 76 USNATO 5238 DTG 281315Z SEP 76 NOTAL
F. TELCON: AMB DEAN-USNATO POLAD PEREZ, JAN 7, 1977

SUMMARY: DANISH DEFENSE ADVISOR (BELLING) HAS INFORMED
US THAT A "PRELIMINARY UNDERSTANDING" ON A NEW FOUR-YEAR
DEFENSE AGREEMENT WAS "CLOSE AT HAND," AND THE DANISH
DELEGATION HOPED TO MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT TO THAT EFFECT
LATER TODAY. IN CONTRAST TO PREVIOUS INDICATIONS THAT DE-
FENSE SPENDING WOULD BE REDUCED IN THE FIRST YEARS OF A
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 00073 071753Z

NEW AGREEMENT, BELLING STATED THAT THE "PRELIMINARY UNDER-
STANDING" WOULD PROBABLY CALL FOR AN AVERAGE ANNUAL RISE
IN DEFENSE EXPENDITURES OF ABOUT 1.5 PERCENT AND IN NO
YEAR WOULD THERE BE A REAL DECLINE. END SUMMARY.

1. US DRC REP (BADER) CALLED ON DANISH DEFENSE ADVISOR
ON JAN 7 REGARDING THE STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS ON THE NEW
DANISH DEFENSE AGREEMENT. BELLING, ON A PERSONAL BASIS,
REPORTED THAT AFTER EXTENDED NEGOTIATIONS LAST EVENING, A
"PRELIMINARY UNDERSTANDING" BETWEEN THE MAJOR POLITICAL

PARTIES WAS "CLOSE AT HAND" AND THE DANISH DELEGATION HOPES TO MAKE A GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENT TO THIS EFFECT LATER TODAY, TO BE FOLLOWED BY MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE AGREEMENT EARLY NEXT WEEK.

2. ACCORDING TO BELLING, THE "PRELIMINARY UNDERSTANDING" WILL CALL FOR (A) AN EXTENSION OF THE CURRENT DEFENSE AGREEMENT FOR FOUR YEARS (THROUGH MAR 31, 1981) AND (B) AN AVERAGE ANNUAL INCREASE IN DEFENSE EXPENDITURES OF ABOUT 1.5 PERCENT IN REAL TERMS. THOUGH UNABLE TO GIVE PRECISE FIGURES, BELLING STATED THAT THERE WILL BE NO REAL DECREASES IN DEFENSE EXPENDITURES FOR ANY YEAR OF THE AGREEMENT.

3. BELLING SAID THAT THE PLANNED REAL INCREASES IN DEFENSE SPENDING WOULD HAVE TO COVER ADDITIONAL COSTS FOR (A) THE DANISH HOME GUARD, (B) INCREASED PERSONNEL COSTS (ABOVE AND BEYOND NORMAL INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS), AND (C) PROCUREMENT OF NEW EQUIPMENT TO MONITOR EXTENDED TERRITORIAL WATERS. COMMENT: THIS FALL, MOD MOLLER TOLD DRC REPS THAT ANY ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS GENERATED BY THE DANISH EXTENSION OF A 200- MILE FISHERY JURISDICTION WOULD BE HANDLED BY SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET REQUESTS (REF E). IF BELLING'S INFORMATION IS CORRECT, THESE COSTS HAVE BECOME PART OF THE DEFENSE BUDGET. END COMMENT.

4. THOUGH BELLING'S INFORMATION IS TENTATIVE AND WAS PRO-CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NATO 00073 071753Z

VIDED ON A PERSONAL BASIS, IF ACCURATE, IT REFLECTS AN APPARENT CHANGE FROM PREVIOUSLY INDICATED CUTS IN DANISH DEFENSE EXPENDITURES (REFS A-D) AND A SALUTARY RESPONSE TO THE INCREASING WARSAW PACT THREAT. WHEN QUERIED REGARDING THE APPARENT TURN-AROUND, BELLING OPINED THAT THE NATO AND US BRIEFINGS AND CONSULTATIONS WITH DANISH OFFICIALS OVER THE PAST YEAR HAD HAD A POSITIVE EFFECT ON DANISH POLITICAL LEADERS. STRAUSZ-HUPE'

CONFIDENTIAL

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